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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

**PERMANENT SELECT
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SUBCOMMITTEE ON COURTS, INTELLECTUAL
PROPERTY, AND THE INTERNET

April 25, 2022

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chair
Committee on Appropriations
H-307, The Capitol
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth House Office Building
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting \$100,000 in funding for the Emerging Business Community Outreach Program in fiscal year 2023. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Dublin Chamber of Commerce, 6300 Village Parkway, Suite 100, Dublin, CA 94568.

The funding would be used to provide priority access to services for Small, Local, and Emerging Business (SLEB) entities, women-owned, minority-owned, and veteran-owned and agricultural businesses. Many of these businesses have historically had limited access to information and capital.

The Chamber will act as a single point of contact, providing input during the complex process of opening a business in local communities. They will provide the steps necessary to open and continue operating a small business, including legal structures and requirements, basic business development, development of business plans, advise on permitting and licenses, funding and business development connection, and recruitment and retention.

At the local level there is a need for engagement and technical assistance with underserved businesses. The Dublin Chamber of Commerce will support leveraging a community model to reach businesses owned by women, veterans, and socially and economically disadvantaged individuals as part of an overall strategy. Previous economic relief intended to help businesses, yet many were unable to access and connect to resources. Under this community approach, traditional business assistance organizations enlist trusted, culturally knowledgeable partners to conduct targeted outreach to specific sectors of the entrepreneurial community. This can take several forms, from hiring dedicated staff to focus on those communities or partnering with specialized community organizations via a "hub and spoke" model.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Eric Swalwell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Eric Swalwell
Member of Congress